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APPLICATION NO. FILING DATE		FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO	
09/942,101	08/30/2001	Yoshiki Nishibayashi	50212-270 6906		
20277	7590 06/05/2003				
	OTT WILL & EMERY	EXAMINER			
	TREET, N.W. TON, DC 20005-3096		WILLIAMS, JOSEPH L		
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
			2879		
			DATE MAILED: 06/05/2003		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

,	<u> </u>							
		Application	No.	Applicant(s)				
Office Action Summary		09/942,101		NISHIBAYASHI ET AL.				
		Examiner		Art Unit				
		Joseph L. W	<del></del>	2879	<del></del>			
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply								
THE I - Exter after - If the - If NO - Failu - Any r	ORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR R MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATI nsions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 C SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory per to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by teply received by the Office later than three months after the department of the provided of the provided patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	ION.  FR 1.136(a). In no event on.  a, a reply within the statuto period will apply and will er statute, cause the applica	, however, may a reply be ti ry minimum of thirty (30) da expire SIX (6) MONTHS from ation to become ABANDONE	mely filed ys will be considered timely the mailing date of this co				
1)⊠	Responsive to communication(s) filed or	n <u>29 April 2003</u> .						
2a) <u></u> □	This action is <b>FINAL</b> . 2b)⊠	This action is no	on-final.					
3)□	Since this application is in condition for a				e merits is			
Dispositi	closed in accordance with the practice upon of Claims	nder <i>Ex par</i> te Qua	iyle, 1935 C.D. 11, 4	453 O.G. 213.				
•	4)⊠ Claim(s) <u>1-8</u> is/are pending in the application.							
	4a) Of the above claim(s) <u>1-4 and 7</u> is/are withdrawn from consideration.							
5) Claim(s) is/are allowed.								
	6)⊠ Claim(s) <u>5,6 and 8</u> is/are rejected.							
	Claim(s) is/are objected to.							
8) Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.  Application Papers								
	•	ıminar						
9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.								
10/	Applicant may not request that any objection		•					
11) 🗆 -					er.			
11) The proposed drawing correction filed on is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.  If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.								
12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.								
Priority u	ınder 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120							
13)🖂	Acknowledgment is made of a claim for fo	oreign priority unde	er 35 U.S.C. § 119(a	a)-(d) or (f).				
a)[	☑ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:							
	1.⊠ Certified copies of the priority docu	ments have been	received.					
	2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No							
* <u>c</u>	Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.							
14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).								
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.  15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.								
15) Attachmen	_	mesuc priority und	iei 35 U.S.C. §§ 120	u and/or 121.				
1) Notice	re of References Cited (PTO-892) se of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-94			y (PTO-413) Paper No Patent Application (PT				
	nation Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper N		Other:	ratent Application (PT)	U-102)			

Page 2

Application/Control Number: 09/942,101

Art Unit: 2879

## **DETAILED ACTION**

## Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election without traverse of Group II in Paper No. 8 is acknowledged.
 Claims 1-4 and 7 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR
 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected Group, there being no allowable generic or
 linking claim. Election was made without traverse in Paper No. 8.

## Specification

2. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

## Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statement filed 27 November 2001 fails to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97, 1.98 and MPEP § 609 because there is no date provided for the Shiomi et al. reference. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered as to the merits. Applicant is advised that the date of any re-submission of any item of information contained in this information disclosure statement or the submission of any missing element(s) will be the date of submission for purposes of determining compliance with the requirements based on the time of filing the statement, including all certification requirements for statements under 37 CFR 1.97(e). See MPEP § 609 ¶ C(1).

Application/Control Number: 09/942,101 Page 3

Art Unit: 2879

## Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
- (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.
- 5. Claims 5, 6, and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by MacDonald et al. (US 5,844,251).

Regarding claim 5, MacDonald ('251) teaches in figure 2 and in column 3, line 62 through column 4, line 47 an electronic device (no number) comprising: an electronemitting element (30) and an electron extraction electrode (20) placed to oppose the sharp-pointed portion (34), with a voltage (44) being applied between the electronextraction electrode and the electron-emitting element.

The Examiner notes that the claim limitations of how the electron-emitting elements are formed, is drawn to a process of manufacturing, which is incidental to the claimed apparatus. It is well established that a claimed apparatus cannot be distinguished over the prior art by a process limitation. Consequently, absent a showing

Application/Control Number: 09/942,101

Art Unit: 2879

of an unobvious difference between the claimed product and the prior art, the subject product-by-process claim limitation is not afforded patentable weight (see MPEP 2113).

Regarding claim 6, MacDonald ('251) teaches a metal gate (38) formed around the base portion of the electron-emitting element (30); and a power supply (48) for applying a voltage to the gate electrode.

Regarding claim 8, MacDonald ('251) teaches in figure 2 and in column 3, line 62 through column 4, line 47 an electronic device (no number) comprising: an electron-emitting element (30) and an electron extraction electrode (20) placed to oppose the sharp-pointed portion (34), with a voltage (44) being applied between the electron extraction electrode and the electron-emitting element.

The Examiner notes that the claim limitations of how the electron-emitting elements are formed, is drawn to a process of manufacturing, which is incidental to the claimed apparatus. It is well established that a claimed apparatus cannot be distinguished over the prior art by a process limitation. Consequently, absent a showing of an unobvious difference between the claimed product and the prior art, the subject product-by-process claim limitation is not afforded patentable weight (see MPEP 2113).

6. Claims 5 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Saito et al. (US 6,184,611 B1), of record by Applicant.

The applied reference has a common inventor with the instant application.

Based upon the earlier effective U.S. filing date of the reference, it constitutes prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). This rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) might be overcome

Application/Control Number: 09/942,101

Art Unit: 2879

either by a showing under 37 CFR 1.132 that any invention disclosed but not claimed in the reference was derived from the inventor of this application and is thus not the invention "by another," or by an appropriate showing under 37 CFR 1.131.

Regarding claims 5 and 8, Saito ('611) teaches in figure 10 and in column 10, lines 31-67 an electronic device (40) comprising: an electron-emitting element (41) and an electron extraction electrode (42) placed to oppose the sharp-pointed portion (26), with a voltage (no number) being applied between the electron extraction electrode and the electron-emitting element.

The Examiner notes that the claim limitations of how the electron-emitting elements are formed, is drawn to a process of manufacturing, which is incidental to the claimed apparatus. It is well established that a claimed apparatus cannot be distinguished over the prior art by a process limitation. Consequently, absent a showing of an unobvious difference between the claimed product and the prior art, the subject product-by-process claim limitation is not afforded patentable weight (see MPEP 2113).

#### **Contact Information**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph L. Williams whose telephone number is (703) 305-1670. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (6:30 AM-3:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimeshkumar D. Patel can be reached on (703) 305-4794. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)

Application/Control Number: 09/942,101

Art Unit: 2879

Page 6

308-7382 for regular communications and (703) 308-7382 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

greephil lliam

Joseph Williams Examiner

Art Unit 2879

May 31, 2003